

London Advertiser.

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Managing Director John Cameron and Editor.

London, Thursday, May 11, 1899.

Binder Twine and Prison Labor.

Binder twine manufacturing was undertaken in the penitentiary at Kingston and in the Central Prison by the Dominion and Ontario Governments respectively, with the avowed object, not of interfering with the legitimate business of twine manufacturers, but to find employment for the prisoners so that they might in some measure repay the taxpayers for their board and lodging. It is true that Sir Mackenzie Bowell has recently been asserting that this was not the intention of the Dominion authorities at the time the industry was established at Kingston. That he is mistaken, to say the least, is shown by the fact that while a member of the late Government he never once put forward the view which he now expresses. Sir Mackenzie Bowell assumes a position little short of demagogic when he asserts that the duty of the state is not to treat this product of the convict workers as a commercial commodity, but to sell at cost price, and undertake to collect the revenue derived from it in each individual purchase. The adoption of this unbusiness-like course, it is claimed by the discarded leader of the Conservative party—and one of the organs of his party backs him up with more vehemence than judgment—would be especially beneficial to the farming community because it would enable them to buy their supplies at a cheaper rate than under the present system, by which the prison-made twine is sold to the highest bidder, and marketed in the usual way adopted by the authorities in Great Britain and in Canada, along with the product of private manufactories of binder twine. If business methods have been departed from by the Minister of Justice in the late Conservative Government, or by the Minister of Justice in the present Administration, there would have been good reason for an outcry against those charged with the management of the penitentiaries. As by far the greater proportion of the binder-twine used in the country is manufactured by private enterprise, no one in his senses can contend that the selling of the prison product to consumers at a price not warranted by strict business procedure would cause any sensible diminution in the price of twine made outside the penitentiaries. Until such time as it is contemplated to shut up all the twine factories outside the penitentiaries, it is idle for any one to argue that such a course as Sir Mackenzie Bowell has suggested, now that he is an irresponsible politician, would be of general benefit to farmers, or indeed to any class in the community. A good deal of fallacious talk has also been indulged in by one or two Opposition papers with regard to the awarding of the contracts for the sale of the binder twine product of the Kingston Penitentiary. For the purpose of injuring, if possible, the good name of Hon. David Mills, it has been asserted that the Minister of Justice was a party to a scandalous proceeding—that the tender for the product of the penitentiary at Kingston was given out without competition, and so forth. This is entirely without foundation. Contracts were called for, both by advertisements in leading newspapers and by circular to the principal dealers in this commodity throughout the Dominion. The result was, as was reported in the newspapers at the time, that there were a number of tenders, and that the tenderer who offered the highest price for the product was awarded the contract. It was a purely business transaction, honestly entered into by the Minister of Justice, and it cannot, with any regard for decency, be assailed. No one has attempted to do so in the Senate, where the Minister could effectively combat the attack. That unworthy task has been left for those who have no responsibility, and who apparently hope that they can help their political friends by misrepresentation of their opponents.

Canadian Fish Preferred.

It is announced that Massachusetts fish dealers are disappointed in their expectations of an increased trade with Cuba and Porto Rico following the war, the consumers in these islands very wisely preferring the Canadian product, even at a higher price. It appears that the Canadian fishermen dry-salt their codfish, and otherwise contrive to make them toothsome, with exceedingly good keeping qualities, whereas, United States fishermen have endeavored to make more money through the wet salting process, which, it was asserted, made the fish weigh more, while presenting quite as attractive appearance in the eyes of the buyer. Thus the dealer really sold with each 100 pounds of his fish a few pounds of water at the same price as the fish. But the southern fish consumers soon found out our Yankee friends, just as the purchasers of "wooden nutmegs," filled cheese, and bogus butter did, to the great loss of the producers of the United States, and the permanent benefit of the people of Canada who have, by law, prevented the purchasers of Canadian goods from being imposed upon by unfair dealing. These fish exporters discovered that codfish prepared for market after the Yankee fashion, did not possess the keeping qualities of dry salted codfish in tropical climates; fish so finished becomes "mushy" from the great and prolonged heat, and the buyers steer clear of it, to the profit of the producer of the Canadian article. This is another convincing proof that

honesty in preparing and marketing products, and falling in with the taste and requirements of customers, will invariably pay our people. If it enables us to get ahead of shrewd competitors in the world's markets, it is in accordance with our deserts.

The Control of Railways.

We do not know what the Government's attitude is toward Mr. Rutherford's motion urging the appointment of a railway commission, but the principle of the resolution is good. The railway committee has done a useful work, and recently gave a proof of its public spirit in dealing with the Standard Oil Trust, but the members have their other parliamentary duties to perform, and cannot give their undivided attention to railway matters. An expert commission, with sufficiently wide powers, could do effective work in the public interest by a constant scrutiny and due regulation of railway conditions. If such a commission could sidetrack the railway lobby, at least one distinct benefit would be attained. The theory of the state ownership of railways naturally comes up for discussion, but is not yet a question of practical politics, whatever the future may develop. Present circumstances point to an intermediate line of action, namely, a larger measure of public control over railways receiving public aid. The Dominion Government recognized this in the case of the Crow's Nest Pass Railway, the subvention being granted the C. P. R. on condition that other railways should have running rights over the Crow's Nest, while the Government retained the power to regulate the tariff rates. The Government will doubtless reserve the same authority over the new Rainy River Railway, from Winnipeg to Port Arthur. This will be an important link in the chain of transportation between the west and the east. It will give Manitoba and the Northwest another outlet, and it is the duty of Parliament to safeguard the public grant to the promoters by prescribing that the road shall be independent in reality as well as in name. The area of railway competition will then be extended as far west as Winnipeg.

With the rapid development of the country, the railway situation will become more and more complicated, and will require the most vigilant attention. A properly-organized railway commission would have a widening scope of usefulness. The value and necessity of such a body are confirmed by the experience of the United States.

Life Assurance Investments. A general act relating to life assurance has been introduced into the House of Commons. The subject of life assurance is of vital importance to the people of Canada. Safety should be the first consideration, and that course should be adopted which will insure the best results to the insured, as well as to the stockholders.

A short time ago we commented upon the general act introduced with reference to loan corporations, and the principles which we then advocated apply with equal force to the investments of life assurance companies.

The rates of interest obtainable upon mortgage investments have been steadily declining, and the rates obtainable also upon government, municipal and school debentures, have been also declining to such an extent that it would be difficult for an insurance company to make its investments solely upon that class of security and realize the amount of profit it is necessary for them to realize in order to meet their obligations at maturity. The rates obtainable in Canada for mortgage securities are fast becoming as low as those obtainable in Great Britain; and the question so far as the mortgage securities are concerned, is therefore one which affects loan corporations and life assurance companies alike.

We have contended in former articles that loan companies' profits would be largely affected by the rates obtainable upon the class of securities upon which they were permitted to invest. We believe there is no safer investment for insurance companies than the stocks and debentures of loan companies, and we think that in certain investments such as those mentioned, both corporations can work together harmoniously for the good of both.

The people of Toronto are becoming weary of Mayor Shaw, who seems incompetent to deal with or initiate any large question. The following, from the Toronto Star, has an application to other places, as well as Toronto: "There is a large opportunity for a man who can rise above such things, put Mayor Shaw and his small following aside, and direct the administration of the city's business for the benefit of the citizens with energy and dispatch. The council is looking for such a man; the people are looking for him, and the press is looking for him. Here is the opportunity. Where is the man?"

Nothing—Sometimes the rich man wants, the poor man has, the miser spends and the spendthrift saves. It is easy to see through people who make spectacles of themselves.

is 1 per cent higher than they have hitherto been required to maintain, and we believe will be a wise provision and one in the interest of the public, the insurers. Life assurance companies resemble savings banks in many respects, and basing their earnings upon 3 1/2 per cent, is, after all, simply calculating their earnings at that rate for the purpose of being able to meet the obligations they may enter into with each person whose life they may insure. If they earn a greater percentage than that, all the better for all concerned. It will be an easy matter to proportionately increase as profits the amount of money payable to those who are insured.

We heartily indorse the application of life assurance companies for extended powers of investment, and we believe the line of safety lies in giving extended powers, and depends upon the caution and wisdom exercised by the directors of the companies in the use of the powers conferred upon them. A general act is preferable which defines the powers of all and places all upon an equal footing.

Our Canal System.

The Cleveland Leader looks confidently for the time "when one can embark in Cleveland harbor and sail right through to Europe without setting foot on land." The Leader is somewhat sanguine, but it takes a common-sense view of Canada's canal policy. The deepening of the waterways has been undertaken by the Canadian Government with the object of diverting traffic to the St. Lawrence route, but Americans will share the advantages equally with the Canadians. The farmers of Manitoba and the Northwest now send most of their export grain to tide-water by way of Buffalo and the Erie Canal, because they find that more profitable. Similarly, the farmers of the Northwestern States will ship through Canadian channels if these are cheaper, and it is the aim of our Government to make them cheaper. The traffic will follow the line of least resistance. American lake ports like Cleveland, Toledo and Detroit, will, as shipping centers, stand to gain by improved communication with tidewater, through the deepening of Canadian canals. The only place where our enterprise is viewed with disfavor is in New York State. This is only natural, as the rivalry of the St. Lawrence will cut into the immense through traffic which is now intercepted at Buffalo. The New York State Legislature will probably make another appropriation to still further deepen the Erie Canal, so as to meet Canadian competition. So much the better for the producers in both countries.

Mr. Blair has determined that the Intercolonial shall be a railroad, and not a political jobberwocky, or a donkey-engine to the C. P. R.

Rev. Morgan Wood, of Toronto, intends to read a paper on "The Immorality of Church Debts." Church debts, like other debts, are only immortal when they're immortal.

It is no wonder that Sir Charles Tupper is furious over the Intercolonial Railway situation. The idea of wiping out the deficit and making the road a paying concern is a blow at Conservative traditions.

Eggs are being shipped in large quantities from this neighborhood to the Kootenay mining districts. British Columbia is now taking a great deal of agricultural produce from the west, and to this is probably due the slight falling off in our exports to Great Britain.

Andrew Carnegie has retired from active business, and says he will search for worthy objects on which to spend his fortune of \$200,000,000. If someone should tell him about the tax rate here his philanthropy might be touched on this city's behalf.

Mr. Foster said he would be willing to stay out of office eight years, if the country would remain prosperous. The country would be perfectly happy if it were as sure of prosperity for eight years as it is sure that Mr. Foster will be out of office that long.

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Fancy Rome turning Protestant! Roman Catholic organs dwell at length on the remarkable activity of Protestant denunciations in the Eternal City, the Methodists alone having twenty religious and educational institutions. In Austria there has been a large defection from the Roman Catholic to the Protestant Church, among the German element. This is more a political than a religious movement, as the Austrian Germans are offended at the pro-Slavic sympathies of the Catholic clergy. On the other hand, in England, the citadel of Protestantism, we see the Roman Catholic Church flourishing, and its doctrines making undoubted headway in the Established Church. The present theological cross-currents make an interesting study.

Nothing—Sometimes the rich man wants, the poor man has, the miser spends and the spendthrift saves. It is easy to see through people who make spectacles of themselves.

Phone 1046. THE RUNIANS, GRAY, GARRIE CO. Phone 1046

17 SPECIAL BARGAINS

FOR

Friday, May 12th.

Not an unworthy article in the entire list. Such a combination of bargains crowded into a single day ought to produce the biggest selling Friday we have seen yet. Just one word of advice: "GET HERE EARLY."

17 SPECIALS FOR FRIDAY:

- No. 1.—11 dozen Linen Crapo Cloth Towels, size 20x40, pure linen, regular 25c pair, Friday per pair..... 14c
No. 2.—1 piece only 72-inch Half-bleached Table Damask, regular 50c per yard, Friday, per yard, only.... 25c
No. 3.—10 pieces Art Denim, for drapery, fine soft goods, good designs, regular 12c, Friday, per yard..... 5c
No. 4.—20 pieces Black and Red American Prints, warranted to wash, regular 5c and 7c yard, Friday..... 3 1/2c
No. 5.—10 dozen only Ladies' Black Cotton Hose, sizes 8 1/2, 9, 9 1/2, double heel and toe, warranted fast black, regular 12c, Friday 2 pairs for..... 15c
No. 6.—5 dozen only Fine Black Maco Thread Hose, sizes 8 1/2, 9, regular 25c pair, Friday 2 pairs for..... 35c
No. 7.—Lily of the Valley Soap, 3 cakes in a box, Friday, per box..... 10c
No. 8.—10 dozen Ladies' Leather Belts, black and colors, also corded velvet, regular 25c and 35c each, Friday, each..... 15c
No. 9.—15 dozen Ladies' Hemstitched Lawn and Linen Handkerchiefs, regular 10c and 12c each, slightly soiled, Friday, 2 for..... 5c
No. 10.—394 dozen French flowers, newest colors, regular 50c bunch, Friday and until sold, per bunch..... 15c
No. 11.—20 dozen Men's Colored Dress Shirts, 2 collars and separate cuffs, neat blue and white hair-line pattern, regular 75c and \$1, Friday, each..... 39c
No. 12.—48 only Ladies' Parasols, 22 inch paragon frame, fine twill cloth, fast colors, fancy handles, regular \$1 50 each, Friday, each..... \$1
No. 13.—6 ends Black Crepon, blister and small patterns, good bright patterns, regular \$1 and \$1 15, Friday only, per yard..... 65c
No. 14.—1,267 yards Colored Dress Goods, Serge, Fancies, De Beiges, Cords, all shades and patterns, were 50c, 65c, 75c and \$1 per yard, Friday and until sold, per yard..... 35c
No. 15.—5 pieces only Brussels Carpet, 27 inches wide, sold for 50c per yard; from 8 to 12 o'clock Friday morning to be sold at per yard..... 25c
Not more than 40 yards to one customer.
No. 16.—21 only Spring Jackets left, in fawns, blue and black, prices from \$5 to \$27 on Friday at..... HALF PRICE
No. 17.—10 dozen only Blouses, detachable collar, new patterns and designs, regular 60c, 65c and 75c, Friday, each..... 39c

The Runians, Gray, Garrie Co.

IMPORTERS,

208, 210, 210 1/2, 212 DUNDAS STREET.

What Others Say.

"Tee Hee." [Cleveland Plaindealer.] An Ohio girl laughed four hours without stopping. The name of the youth who wore the golf suit is not given.

The Lynching Spirit. [New York Post.] Our lynchings, which, it is said, have amounted to nearly 2,500 during the last 50 years, have been the result, not of any theory of crime or punishment, but of a simple desire for vengeance such as the African or Indian savage feels when he goes on the warpath.

The Teaching Standard. [St. Thomas Journal.] One Conservative paper has ventured the assertion that because of some changes in the percentages the standard of the examinations prescribed by the Department of Education has actually been lowered instead of raised. Try someone who passed one of the examinations, say 20 years ago, with papers

set for a recent examination, and see how much he will think the standard has been lowered.

The Present Prosperity. [Kingston Whig.] "The Liberals are in great luck," says a contemporary. "They are reaping the harvest of their opponents' sowing." That won't do. Eighteen years of sowing should not have passed without reward if the seed had been any good. Besides, it's Scriptural for those to reap who sow. Give the Liberals their due.

Knowledge and Patriotism. [Hamilton Times.] In an article on patriotism—an article containing many good things—the Belleville Intelligencer has this remark: "In modern times, when means of communication between country and country are so abundant, the citizen of the world has become an all too familiar figure. Cosmopolitanism has become a vice." We do not think that true patriotism is injured by the widest knowledge gained by study and travel. On the contrary, we think that the facilities for travel and the more intimate knowledge of other peoples have led to a higher, broader, better idea of patriotism, to the lessening of race prejudices, to the bringing nearer of the time when all the world shall be one brotherhood. Turn on the lights; open wide the gates; let not brotherhood be bound by national lines! The patriotism that can't stand knowledge of the world is mouldy fungus.

Light and Shade. Innocent Tommy. Father—Tommy, stop pulling that cat's tail. Tommy—I'm only holding the tail; the cat's pulling it. Money Needed. Rector—Remember, my young friend, there are things in life better than money. Young Friend—Yes, I know that; but it takes money to buy them.—Exchange

Fine Inconsistency. We may fall into inconsistency through error. It is a fine thing to fall into it through truth, and then we must throw ourselves into it headlong. The Unexpected. A lady one day being in need of some small change, called downstairs to the cook and inquired: "Mary, have you any coppers down there?" "Yes, mum, I've two; but, if you please, mum, they're both me cousins!" was the unexpected reply. Time's Lessons. Every year strips us of at least one vain expectation, and teaches us to reckon some solid good in its stead.—George Eliot. Wheat sowing in Manitoba is now progressing favorably, a week earlier than last spring, and Hunt Bros. are now hopeful of a plentiful supply of that grandest of wheats for the manufacture of their celebrated "Diamond Flour" for the coming year.

EGZEMA ON NOSE

For 9 Years Cured by CUTICURA In a Short Time After Five Doctors Failed.

I have suffered for nine years with sores in my nose. I consulted with a first-class doctor and he told me it was fever sore that would soon pass away. I had four doctors treat me for nose trouble, but without seeming to do any good. My trouble was so bad my husband decided that I should go to N. Y. City and get treated. I got the best doctor in the city for nose, eye, and throat told me I had eczema in the worst form, and I must stay and get treated three times a week. I did not seem to get any relief, so my husband sent for me to come home. While I was home I decided to try CUTICURA. I got CUTICURA SOAP, CUTICURA (ointment), and CUTICURA RESOLVENT, and I was surprised to find it was but a short time when my nose was all well. Mrs. C. S. VAN POSTRAND, April 26, 1898. Point o' Woods, Bay Shore, L. I.

HEAD A SOLID SORE From a very small girl I had a breaking out on my head every spring, which would become a solid scab. Finally my father procured a box of CUTICURA (ointment), a cake of CUTICURA SOAP, and a bottle of CUTICURA RESOLVENT. I have never been troubled with the disease since. ROSEAN B. HANNA, Mt. Vernon, Ark. April 22, 1898.

CUTICURA Begins with the Blood and Ends with The Skin and Soap. That is to say it purifies the blood and circulates fluids of humor, and thus removes the cause, while warm baths with CUTICURA SOAP, and gentle anointings with CUTICURA (ointment), greatest of emollient skin cures, cleanse the skin and scalp of crusts and scales, allay itching, burning, and inflammation, and soothe and heal. Thus are speedily, permanently, and economically cured the most torturing, disgusting and humiliating humors of the skin, scalp, and head, with loss of hair, when the best physicians and all other remedies fail.

SAVE YOUR HAIR with warm shampoo with CUTICURA SOAP.

ELECTRICAL WORK OF ALL KINDS...

R. M. MILLAR

Removed to Spencer Block, Dundas Street. Formerly at 434 Talbot Street.

Try Friend's Restaurant For First-class Meals 20c each, 117 Dundas St.

EVERETT HOUSE, W. M. BATES, B. L. M. BATES. An established hotel under new management and thoroughly abreast of the times. Visitors to New York will find the Everett in the very heart of the shopping district, convenient to places of amusement and readily accessible from all parts of the city. EUROPEAN PLAN.

APIOL & STEEL PILLS

A REMEDY FOR IRREGULARITIES Superseding Bitter Apple, Pil Ooshia, Pennyroyal, etc. Order of all Chemists, or post free for \$1.50 from EVANS & SONS, LIMITED, Montreal, Que., Toronto, Ont., and Victoria, B.C., or MARTIN, Pharmaceutical Chemist, Southampton, Eng.

Sweet Home Soap

For Easy Washing. GET "THE FORTUNE TELLER" Picture Premium LONDON SOAP CO.